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## Senate

(Legislative day of Tuesday, December 18, 2001)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable E. BENJAMIN NELSON, a Senator from the State of Nebraska.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear Father, sovereign of this Nation, we press on with the work of the Senate with the message and meaning of this sacred season in our hearts. Although the Senators worship You in different liturgies based on their religious backgrounds, they all believe in You as sovereign of this Nation. Help them and their staffs work together in a way that exemplifies to our Nation that people who trust in You can trust one another; that people who experience Your goodness can be people of good will. May this historic Chamber be a place of creative exchange of insight that leads to greater unity around shared convictions about what is best for America. You are here listening, watching, judging. When we end this week, may we hear Your affirmation: "Well done, you have pulled together for the sake of America." Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable E. BENJAMIN NELSON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, December 20, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable E. BENJAMIN NELSON, a Senator from the State of Nebraska, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002—CONFERENCE REPORT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3061 which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3061) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes, having met, have agreed that the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate and agree to the same with an amendment and the Senate agree to the same, signed by all conferees on the part of both Houses.

(The conference report is printed in the House proceedings of the RECORD of Wednesday, December 19, 2001.)

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time that has been assigned run equally against all parties during this time. There is no one here on the bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### NOTICE

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Michael F. DiMario, *Public Printer*

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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